

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00787 201654Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ARA-10 EA-10
NEA-10 /109 W
-----105845 201724Z /43

O R 201626Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7138
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SAG TRIES TO MITIGATE EFFECT OF AG
SECURITY PROCLAMATION

1. AN ARTICLE IN THE PRO-SAG "CITIZEN", APRIL 20, ON THE AG'S
ASSUMPTION OF DETENTION POWERS (CAPE TOWN 780) SUGGESTS
EFFORTS BY THE GOVERNMENT TO MITIGATE THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF
THE MOVE ON THE NAMIBIAN NEGOTIATIONS. THE "CITIZEN" QUOTES
"GOVERNMENT OBSERVERS" AS EMPHASIZING THAT THE MEASURES
WERE NOT AIMED AT SWAPO OR ANY OTHER POLITICAL PARTY, BUT
PURELY AGAINST INDIVIDUALS. THE SOURCES SAID THAT THE AG
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HAD TAKEN "EVERY POSSIBLE PRECAUTION TO PREVENT A BIKO-TYPE
AFFAIR IN THE TERRITORY." THEY NOTED THAT SIX PAGES OF THE
AG'S TEN-PAGE PROCLAMATION DEALT WITH THE RIGHTS OF
DETAINEES. APART FROM COMPLAINING TO MAGISTRATES, THEY
POINTED OUT, DETAINEES COULD APPROACH THE ADMINISTRATOR
GENERAL DIRECTLY IN WRITING IN WHICH CASE A REVIEWING
COMMITTEE WOULD CONSIDER THEIR COMPLAINTS.

2. THE "CITIZEN" ALSO QUOTED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL PARTY'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS STUDY GROUP, DAWIE DE VILLIERS, AS SAYING HE HOPED THERE WOULD BE UNDERSTANDING ABROAD OF THE NEED FOR SUCH STEPS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF TWO BLACK LEADERS AND "A DOCUMENTED THREAT" THAT OTHERS COULD BE ASSASSINATED.

3. THE "CITIZEN" ALSO REPORTS THAT ACCORDING TO SOURCES IN WINDHOEK, THE AUTHORITIES "APPARENTLY CLAMPED DOWN ON SEVERAL SUSPECTS" SHORTLY AFTER THE PROCLAMATION WAS PUBLISHED ON TUESDAY, APRIL 18. THE SWAPO OFFICE TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT SO FAR AS THEY KNEW ONLY ONE SWAPO OFFICIAL HAD BEEN DETAINED IN THE LAST TWO DAYS, SKINNY HILUNDUA. HILUNDUA, PARTY CHAIRMAN IN OVAMBO, WAS ARRESTED IN KATATURA, THE SWAPO OFFICE SAID.
NELSON

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NNN

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